

"No, sir."

Saw Him Burn Himself.

"Do you know of your wife burning him?"

"No, I do not."

"Have you ever seen him burn himself?"

"Yes. I saw him burn himself once by falling against the stove while he was dressing."

"Did your wife beat him?"

"Yes. He could count up to 100 on some days. He could also write his name."

"Did the boy have a good appetite?"

"Yes, he ate more than any of us. He had a good appetite."

"Did you starve him?"

"No, sir. He had plenty of food and so did we."

"Were you careful of his food?"

"Yes, we were very careful."

"What time did you leave on the day he died?"

"At 4:30 A. M."

"Was he well when you left?"

"Yes."

"What was the excitement at your house?"

"Ralph fell off of the back porch that morning. He fell on a lot of rocks and hurt himself."

"Where did he hurt himself?"

"On the back of his head."

"How do you know that?"

"I washed the place myself."

"What happened later?"

"I found him practicing his evil habits and I started to punish him. He threw himself on the floor and hurt his face. I was about to strike him with a strap when my wife stopped me and would not let me strike him."

"Was your wife fond of Ralph?"

"Yes, and when she used to tell me she loved me, I was good boy, we were as happy as could be."

"Was your wife well that morning?"

"No, she was very ill the morning she left home. I kissed her and my children goodbye."

"What happened when you left home that morning?"

"I went to Dr. Smith's to help in an operation. I went for some rods and the rheomaker. I went to Rubb Jacobs and had a drink. I then went to Crull and asked me to take \$5 to the bank. I went to Smith's again and then to Jacobs's, where I had another drink. I then went to get a bale of straw for Dr. Smith. I went to Clay Street to see a man named Hiddle. I went to see a man named Gide. I went into a barber shop and got shaved and got my hair cut, then the bank book dropped out and I put the money in my pocket. Later I found that I had lost the money. I knew I had to replace the money, couldn't get it in Richmond and so I caught the midday train to New York, and reached New York late that night. I knew I could get money in New York. I sent a telegram to my wife, telling her that all was well. I didn't know anything about my child's death until I saw it in the New York Journal on the following Sunday evening."

The Arrest in New York.

"I was in a hotel when two gentlemen asked me if my name was Sheppard K. I said yes and they told me I was wanted. They then said that I was wanted for murder in Manchester. I was then taken to a cell and kept there."

"Has Mr. Crull been paid?"

"Yes. I would have paid him on Tuesday. I was arrested but I was locked up and could not get to pay him."

"Why was the marriage kept secret?"

"Because my brother said the day my marriage would be the date of my trial."

Cross-examination by Mr. Page:

"How old were you when your brother threatened to discharge you?"

"I was 32 years of age."

"What were you getting?"

"A week and commission."

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